

LIFERAFT INSPECTIONS AND FACILITY AUDITS

REFERENCE:

(a) 46 CFR 160.151-53.

**DIRECTIVES
AFFECTED:**

CIDIG MEMO #36 dated 18Dec98 is superceded.

OVERVIEW:

Reference (a) allows the OCMI to decide which liferafts are to be witnessed during servicing. Liferaft servicing facilities will complete a 'Liferaft Servicing Notification' (enclosure 1) at least 48 hours prior to servicing all rafts. The last section of the Notification is a matrix to vet each raft. If the raft has six or fewer points, the facility may proceed with servicing. If seven or more points are assigned, the Dispatcher will decide if a marine inspector will witness the servicing. If an inspector will attend, the Dispatcher will determine a mutually agreeable appointment.

SERVICING FACILITY:

The servicing facility will fill out enclosure (1), 'Liferaft Servicing Notification', and fax it to the MSO at (510) 437 3114. The Inspection Department Dispatcher will vet the raft using the matrix. Rafts with 12 or more points must be witnessed prior to servicing; call the Dispatcher at (510) 437 3119 to schedule an appointment. A raft scoring between seven and 11 points may be witnessed by the CG; coordinate with the Dispatcher for a determination. Rafts scoring six or fewer points will not normally have a CG witness. For training purposes, the MSO may wish to attend a raft scoring six or fewer, but the Dispatcher will notify the facility in this case. The facility must keep the Liferaft Servicing Notification for one year, after which it may be destroyed.

MSO DISPATCHER:

Upon receipt of the Liferaft Servicing Notification, the Dispatcher will determine if the servicing will be witnessed. This might include witnessing exclusively for training. At a minimum, an inspector should be assigned to visit each facility at least semi-annually. The purpose of this visit is to ensure the facility and servicing personnel remain in compliance with the applicable regulations. The

Dispatcher will coordinate scheduling with the facility if an inspector is to attend for any reason.

MARINE INSPECTOR: If assigned to visit a liferaft servicing facility, the inspector must be very familiar with the requirements of 46 CFR 160.151, and needs to know:

- If the facility itself is due for a compliance visit
- Why that servicing need to be witnessed

As with any other inspection, a MSIS/MISLE case must be completed.

Encl (1) Liferaft Servicing Notification

LIFERAFT SERVICING NOTIFICATION

Liferaft servicing facility: _____ Date of Servicing: _____
 Facility fax number: _____ Facility phone number: _____

Manufacturer	Type / Capacity	Serial / Lot #	Age	Type of Servicing

ATTENTION: Liferaft servicing facility, *I do / do not* intend to send a Marine Inspector to witness servicing of the above liferafts / IBAs. Please phone (510) 437-3119 to coordinate inspection times.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Complete this form and fax to the Inspection Department at (510) 437 3114 no later than 48 hours prior to servicing. Please ensure you include the Notification Sequence Number.
2. The Dispatcher will circle the appropriate response and fax it to your facility.
3. "TYPE / CAPACITY" means *SOLAS A/B* or *IBA*, and rated number of persons.
4. "TYPE OF SERVICING" means *Annual* or *5-Yr.*

Notification Sequence Number: _____ Total Points Assigned: _____

Priority Assigned (circle): Critical High Medium Low
 (>12 pts) (7 –11 pts) (3 – 6 pts) (<3 pts)

Liferaft Priority Matrix:

Manufacturer	Age	Special Tests	Facility History	Actual Deployment
Seaco/Elliott = 3 pts	5 – 10 yrs = 2 pts	Gas inflation = 5 pts	No Problems = 0 pts	Satisfactory = 5 pts
Others = 0 pts	> 10 yrs = 5 pts	DL load test = 3 pts	Problems = 5 pts	Unsat/failed = 12 pts
	> 15 yrs = 7 pts			

Notes:

"Facility History" is 0 or 5 points at the OCMI's discretion.

"Actual Deployment" is any inflation, including inadvertent, other than at testing facility.

12 or more points = **Critical** servicing. Servicing will be witnessed by CG.

7 – 11 points = **High** priority servicing. CG will strive to witness, resources permitting. If not to be witnessed, facility will be allowed to proceed.

3 – 6 points = **Medium** priority servicing. CG will witness if resources allow. If not, facility may proceed.

<3 points = **Low** priority servicing. Generally not witnessed by CG. Facility may proceed.

Encl (1)